

Solid Waste Advisory Committee

November 24, 2008; 4:15PM
General Services Department
Combined Operations and Maintenance Facility
311 North State Street

Meeting Minutes

Present: Councilor Keith Nyhan, Chair, Councilor Fred Keach, Councilor Dick Lemieux, Councilor Bill Stetson, Greg Banks, Paula Mattis, Mike Russell

Guest: Mayor Jim Bouley

Staff: Tom Aspell, Chip Chesley, Bob McManus, Vanessa Ghiden

Excused: Councilor Werner, Melanie Doiron, Jeff Myers, Councilor Liz Blanchard

Noting that a quorum was present, the meeting was convened at 4:15 PM by Councilor Nyhan. He noted that he would need to leave the meeting at about 5:15 PM to attend another commitment. Chip noted that Melanie Doiron called and advised that she couldn't make today's meeting because of a personal commitment.

Review and Approval of Minutes

The minutes of November 12, 2008, were reviewed and approved by the Committee.

Communication Plan Presentations

Councilor Nyhan noted that there were three presentations the Committee should review and discuss. They were the short summary sheet which described the options the committee had investigated, a short eight slide presentation that outlines the issues and shows the options that the committee had evaluated, and a longer presentation which describes in more detail the Pay As You Throw.

The committee first discussed the short summary sheet. It was the consensus of the committee to combine the narrative information with the budgetary information into one table. Mayor Bouley noted that the purpose of the summary sheet was to describe possible scenarios and the committee is looking for input from the committee. Councilor Lemieux recommended to enumerate the options considered. It was agreed that the table headings should include be the

program, description with brief bullet key points, advantages, disadvantages, budget cost increase or decrease, and cost to the average tax payer. Councilor Lemieux inquired about the tax impact associated with the three percent increase in the municipal tax rate. Tom Aspell explained that with Pay As You Throw some services, such as recycling, are increased. Councilor Stetson inquired how the commercial property tax will be affected by Pay As You Throw. Tom Aspell noted that the current models retain the \$ 1.9 million general fund transfer to the solid waste fund so that portion of the commercial tax base would remain. Councilor Keach noted that Pay As You Throw helps to pay the increase costs the solid waste budget will incur. Councilor Lemieux noted that the options should be enumerated to make it easier to discuss during a presentation. Mayor Bouley noted that the table should include a brief presentation of the City's solid waste services and the amount of waste that is generated by the program. He noted that the purpose of the chart is to provide a summary of the options evaluated by the committee for people to easily understand and that it should note that a final decision has not been made. The purpose of the chart to help residents understand the problem and to receive their input. Mayor Bouley also suggested that the chart could include some frequently asked questions. It was agreed that General Services' staff would update the chart as discussed.

The committee then discussed the short presentation. Chip noted the goal of the presentation is to provide a discussion of the solid waste issues facing the City and suggested that it could be used at the Chamber meeting on December 12. The committee suggested changing the title to 'The Problems' and recommended including the amount of solid waste the city generates, and listing the RSA applicable to the leaf and yard waste ban. The committee recommended adding an additional slide at the end of the presentation asking 'Should the City go to PAYT?', and noting that the City wants to hear from you. It was agreed that General Services' staff would update the presentation.

Noting the hour of the evening, Councilor Nyhan moved forward to the next item on the agenda, Communications Plan Action Items.

Communications Plan Action Items

After discussion, it was agreed that Mayor Bouley, Councilor Nyhan, Tom Aspell and Chip Chesley would attend the scheduled December 1 meeting with the Concord Monitor editorial board at their offices at 12:30.

Chip noted that he had met with Don Mauer from the NH Department of Environmental Services regarding participating with committee members on a CCTV program. The committee agreed it would be beneficial to have Mr. Mauer's perspective. Councilor Nyhan suggested other participants could include Jeff Meyers, Tom Aspell and himself. Chip noted he would request time from CCTV during the second week of December.

The committee agreed that WKXL Coffee Chat would also be a good venue for a presentation in mid December. Tom Aspell volunteered to coordinate this show which is generally on Friday mornings. Councilor Keach volunteered to participate along with Councilor Nyhan and Tom Aspel.

The Insider was also discussed. It was agreed to contact Danielle Kronk after meeting the Monitor's editorial board. The committee thought that the Insider may be a good venue to discuss how Pay As You Throw would work. The committee also discussed the Insider's recent edition focused on recycling .

Chip noted that he has been asked to make a presentation to the Chamber of Commerce on December 12 before their Local Government Affairs Committee.

Chip noted that General Services' staff plans to begin meeting with condominium and apartment complexes after the Thanksgiving Holiday.

Chip noted he had reserved City Council Chambers for January 5 and 6 for a community forum. The committee agreed on Monday, January 5, at 7:00 PM. Councilor Nyhan asked all to attend.

Councilor Nyhan then returned to the agenda and returned to a review of the long presentation. He also asked to be excused at this time.

Communications Plan Presentations

The committee then reviewed the long presentation. Councilor Lemieux led the discussion and the committee members suggested several revisions to the presentation.

Report and Final Recommendation due to City Council January 12

Chip reminded the committee that the final recommendation is due to City Council and General Services' staff will begin drafting the report in December for the committee's review

The meeting adjourned at 6:25 PM.